

# THE AMERICAN UNION.

WEST VIRGINIA PORTFOLIO

"THE UNION MUST AND SHALL BE PRESERVED."—Jackson.

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## "THE AMERICAN UNION."

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Tune—"Wait for the Wagon."

"The Union" is our watchword wherever our footsteps roam,  
And with the friends of freedom we all  
a home;  
Our hearts are with our country, our eyes are  
on our flag;  
And we will plant it North and South on plain  
or mountain crag.

CHORUS:—Then wait for the Union,  
The proud sailing Union,  
The imperishable Union,  
And we'll all take a ride.

We've left our home and kindred, in quest of  
traitor hosts,  
Resolved that we will bravely die, or drive them  
from our coasts;  
Our fathers fought the mother when she raised  
the tyrant hand,  
And we will whip the brother who would scunge  
our happy land.

CHORUS:—Then wait for the Union, &c.

Our wagons are "substantial," and our horses  
large and full,  
We have pork and beef and crackers, just as  
much as they can pull;  
All our men are "gay and happy" while there's  
aught of work to do,  
And when they get into battle they will "put  
the rebels through."

CHORUS:—Then wait for the Union, &c.

Our cause is just and holy, our laws "must be  
preserved."  
And in the work of fighting, we cannot be un-  
nerved;  
God bless our noble army—in them we all  
confide—  
So jump into the Union and we'll all take a  
ride.

CHORUS:—Then wait for the Union, &c.

## Declaration of Independence.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it be-  
comes necessary for one people to dissolve the  
political bands which have connected them  
with another, and to assume, among the pow-  
ers of the earth, the separate and equal station  
to which the laws of nature and of nature's God  
entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of  
mankind requires that they should declare the  
causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that  
all men are created equal; that they are en-

dowed by their creator with certain unalienable  
rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and  
the pursuit of happiness. That, to secure  
these rights, governments are instituted among  
men, deriving their just powers from the con-  
sent of the governed; that, whenever any form  
of government becomes destructive of these  
ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to  
abolish it, and to institute a new government,  
laying its foundation on such principles, and  
organizing its powers in such form, as to them  
shall seem most likely to effect their safety and  
happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that  
governments long established, should not be  
changed for light and transient causes; and,  
accordingly, all experience hath shown, that  
mankind are more disposed to suffer, while  
evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by  
abolishing the forms to which they are accus-  
tomed. But when a long train of abuses and  
usurpations, pursuing invariably the same ob-  
ject, evinces a design to reduce them under ab-  
solute despotism, it is their right, it is their  
duty, to throw off such government, and to  
provide new guards for their future security.—  
Such has been the patient sufferance of these  
colonies, and such is now the necessity which  
constrains them to alter their former systems  
of government. The history of the present  
king of Great Britain is a history of repeated  
injuries and usurpations, all having, in direct  
object, the establishment of an absolute tyranny  
over these States. To prove this, let facts be  
submitted to a candid world:

He has refused his assent to laws the most  
wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass  
laws of immediate and pressing impor-  
tance, unless suspended in their operation till  
his assent should be obtained; and, when so  
suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend  
to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the  
accommodation of large districts of people,  
unless those people would relinquish the  
right of representation in the legislature;  
a right inestimable to them, and formidable  
to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies  
at places unusual, uncomfortable, and dis-  
tant from the depository of their public  
records, for the sole purpose of forcing  
them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses  
repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firm-  
ness, his invasions on the rights of the  
people.

He has refused, for a long time after  
such dissolutions, to cause others to be  
elected; whereby the legislative powers,

incapable of annihilation, have returned to  
the people at large for their exercise; the  
State remaining in the meantime, exposed  
to all the danger of invasion from without,  
and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the popu-  
lation of these States; for that purpose,  
obstructing the laws for the naturalization  
of foreigners; refusing to pass others to  
encourage their migration hither, and  
raising the conditions of new appropri-  
ations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of  
justice, by refusing his assent to laws for  
establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his  
will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and  
the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new of-  
fices, and sent hither swarms of officers to  
harrass our people, and eat out their  
substance.

He has kept among us, in times of  
peace, standing armies, without the consent  
of our legislature.

He has affected to render the military  
independent of, and superior to, the civil  
power.

He has combined, with others, to sub-  
ject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our con-  
stitution, and unacknowledged by our  
laws, giving his assent to their acts of pre-  
tended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed  
troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial,  
from punishment, for any murders which  
they should commit on the inhabitants of  
these States:

For cutting off our trade with all parts  
of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our  
consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the  
benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be  
tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of En-  
glish laws in a neighboring province, es-  
tablishing therein an arbitrary government,  
and enlarging its boundaries, so as to ren-  
der it at once an example and fit instru-  
ment for introducing the same absolute rule  
into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing  
our most valuable laws, and altering, fun-